

SCHOOLS

Focus on Faculty

by Jennifer A. Cook and Courtney M. Rhodes

This week's Focus on the Faculty member is Mr. Brandon Davis. He is a reading teacher for seventh and eighth grade at Zion Chapel.

Mr. Davis' birthday is Nov. 23. He has been teaching for five years. He coaches seventh and eighth grade boys' basketball.

Mr. Davis said his favorite part about teaching is when he connects with the students. He is married to Angie Davis, who teaches high school science. They have three children, Dillon who is 16, Brianna who is 14, and Brodie who is a year old.

When asked if he was an Auburn or Alabama fan, he responded, "Roll Tide!"

Mr. Davis loves Zion Chapel and thinks it is a great school!



Brandon Davis

He says his biggest accomplishment is graduating from college.

When asked if he was an Auburn or Alabama fan, he responded, "Roll Tide!"

Mr. Davis loves Zion Chapel and thinks it is a great school!



Concert to benefit ZC band

A benefit concert to assist the Zion Chapel Band fund the upcoming trip to the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans, La., will be held Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Farm Center in New Brockton. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the concert will begin at 7 p.m.

There will be an admission charge for the concert. Shane Owens will perform, as well as the Zion Chapel Band. All proceeds will go to the band to help fund the trip to the Sugar Bowl.

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Sports Editorial: The Tide is Rising

by Logan Leverett and Josh Richards

At the beginning of the 2008-2009 college football season, the expectations for Nick Saban's Alabama squad were minimal. This year was projected to be a rebuilding year and was expected to be tough for the Tide.

In only his second year at the helm, Nick Saban has this Alabama team primed and ready for a trip to the SEC Championship game to face the very dangerous Florida Gators. Many critics are predicting Alabama to lose in this game, but these are also the same critics who have counted Alabama out of the title picture at the beginning of the season.

Who can really blame them? After a dismal finish to the 2006-2007 season, including a loss to LA-Monroe, the Tide appeared to be a struggling team who would need many more years to return to national power. Conduct of the players did not help the situation, as

Nick Saban was forced to suspend or release certain players from the squad for disciplinary reasons. Despite all this, the Crimson Tide was still able to rebound with a 30-24 win over Colorado in the bowl season.

In the off-season, Saban picked up many valuable commitments, including Julio Jones, the nation's top high school wide receiver. Now, eleven weeks into the season the Alabama Crimson Tide is standing atop the BCS standings. It hasn't always been pretty, and not much can be said about the Tide's style points, but they have overcome adversity and have won when it counted.

Nick Saban is a big believer in finishing, so he will have the players ready for any obstacle they face. With a tough rivalry game against Auburn in the annual Iron Bowl, and a tough game against SEC East Champion Florida, the players must remain focused on their ultimate goal, which is to win the

National Championship. No matter how this season ends, though, one thing is for sure. Alabama is headed in the right direction. The younger players will only get better with experience, and they have seen that he is more than worth his weight in gold.

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Pictures with Santa made by

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Picture Packages will be available for purchase!

Event sponsored by

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Editorial: Will machines replace soldiers?

by Casey Rushing and Lay-La Hussey

Will robotics replace troops in Iraq? Many people around the world are worried for their loved ones in the war and wish for an easier way to fight the war without the soldiers being harmed.

In recent years, the army has been heavily involved in making these literal war machines work under the command of a human soldier. Word of this sparked interest in many Americans and soon shot their hopes high that their soldiers will return and be replaced by metal. It will be a long time until humans are completely removed from the field of combat.

Many of the robots will probably still need guidance, however, because the robots lack the ability to think fully on their own. Many robots are already in use to make and insure the safety of American troops.

It is a relief to many to hear that there is a chance to fight a war and know that all of our soldiers will be safer than before. All we can do is hope that these mechanical heroes can one day save the lives of the many that serve and fight for our country.

Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank looking for help with Holly Jolly Bags

The Wiregrass Area United Way Food Bank is looking for volunteers and volunteer groups to decorate Holly Jolly bags for the December Brown Bag distribution. This year's goal is to have 2,600 bags decorated and returned to the Food Bank before Dec. 11.

Holly Jolly bags are very important because the decorations, made with love, may be the only Christmas card seniors in the program receive and are greatly anticipated each year. Bags are available at the Food Bank in bundles of 25 and 50.

Interested churches, clubs, schools, and civic groups can help by stopping by the Food Bank at 382 Twitchell Road to pick up a bundle of bags and return them decorated by Dec. 11. Food donations would be appreciated as well.

Call 334-794-4499 for more information.

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"Healthcare News Monitor"

Dry Skin? Don't Let Winter Win

Dry winter air can cause your skin to crack, chafe, itch and develop dry patches, but there are a number of things you can do to protect your skin. During cold spells, your skin is constantly bombarded, dried out, and increasingly susceptible to infection.

Winter Skin Care Tips:

- Drink six to eight glasses of water a day, because when we're properly hydrated, our skin lubricates itself from the inside.
- Don't take long, hot showers. Instead, take shorter, warm showers. The steam and heat associated with long, hot showers can draw out moisture on the skin and cause dryness.
- Use lotions and creams to create a barrier that protects your skin against dryness. For best results, apply a product with ingredients such as shea butter and petrolatum immediately after a shower or bath, when your skin is still moist.
- Exfoliate regularly. This not only removes rough dry patches, but it promotes new cell growth and enhances the absorption of skin care products. Apply a moisturizer after exfoliating so that moisture brought to the surface doesn't immediately evaporate.
- Don't use harsh soaps or cleansers, which contain preservatives, fragrances and lye that can irritate skin. Instead, use products that contain glycerin, which traps and maintains moisture.
- Use a humidifier to counter the dry air created by furnaces and other heating devices. A humidifier in the bedroom can help combat dry skin.
- It's best to start taking care of your skin early in the winter, before dryness has a chance to set in. While we often neglect our skin, or only treat it for cosmetic reasons, it's important to remember that our skin is an organ, part of the body just like anything else, and requires constant care.

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Elba Lady Tigers
grab first win of
the season

INSIDE
'Christmas in
Elba' event a
success

The Elba Clipper

Volume 112, Number 27 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 11, 2008 1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

During Coffee County Commission meeting New Brockton mayor requests county's help with wastewater treatment project

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the meeting held Monday morning, Dec. 8, New Brockton officials requested assistance from the Coffee County Commission in regards to the town's wastewater treatment project.

New Brockton Mayor Lenwood Herron said the town recently was awarded a \$400,000 grant from ADEM (Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs) to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant.

The mayor added that he saw at Monday's meeting to see how the two entities can work together so both can benefit from this project. He told commissioners there is time to work on it, and he will come back at a later date to see if or how much the commission can help.

In regards to business from the county engineer, commissioners voted Monday to give permission to send out bids for oils and lubricants. They also voted to approve a resolution authorizing the chairman to start negotiating with engineers for a waste energy project at the county landfill.

County administrator Kathy Lolley said the Zion Chapel Band Booster president Scott Hendrix attended a recent work session and requested commissioners waive the fee for use of the farm center for a concert held last Thursday night, Dec. 4, as a fund

raiser event for the Zion Chapel band. Commissioners voted Monday to waive that fee. Lolley also told commissioners the secretary of state is requiring various mailouts, and she recommended commissioners approve a motion designating the state as the agent to mailout for the county. This passed by a unanimous vote.

Also during Monday's meeting, commissioners voted to appoint Commissioner Dean Smith as vice chairman for the year. They also voted to make several board replacements in regards to the commission's representative on the respective boards/councils in need of the change.

The next Coffee County Commission meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 22, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

Elba Rotary Club donates dictionaries to Elba Elementary third graders

by Brian Blair, Staff Writer

On Friday, Dec. 5, the third grade classes of Elba Elementary School were given an early Christmas present by the Elba Rotary Club.

As part of their annual service project, Elba Rotary Club members donated dictionaries to each of the third graders at EES. Rotary Club President Tonya Jones, along with Asst. Governor of District 6880 Josh Wilson, was on hand to make the presentation.

Jones said the Malone Family Foundation of Alabama also sponsors the service project.

"Since it is Christmas, we decided to give each of you a gift," said Jones while speaking the group of students. "We hope you will be able to use these dictionaries at home and school. They are yours to keep."

Jones also explained to the students the Rotary Club's "Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Say, or Do." She also spoke of the word ethics to the students and asked them to look up the definition of ethics in their new dictionaries.

After the presentation was made, the third graders all said a big "thank you" to also have been presented at Jones, Wilson, and the Elba New Brockton and Kinston

elementary schools and will be presented at Zion Chapel in the next week. Elba City Schools Superintendent Danny Weeks said he appreciated the Elba Rotary Club donating the dictionaries for the students to use.

Several Elba Elementary School third graders show off their new dictionaries as they pose for a picture with Elba Rotary Club representatives and school officials. Those pictured above include: Tonya Jones, Rotary Club President; Laken Cooks; Kira Starks; Zachary Cowart; Destiny Cole; Jeremiah Jordan; Josh Wilson, Asst. Governor - District 6880; Ethan Roper; Avery Webster; Tanner Herrington; Elba City Schools Superintendent Danny Weeks; and Elba Elementary School Principal LaKeshia Brackins.

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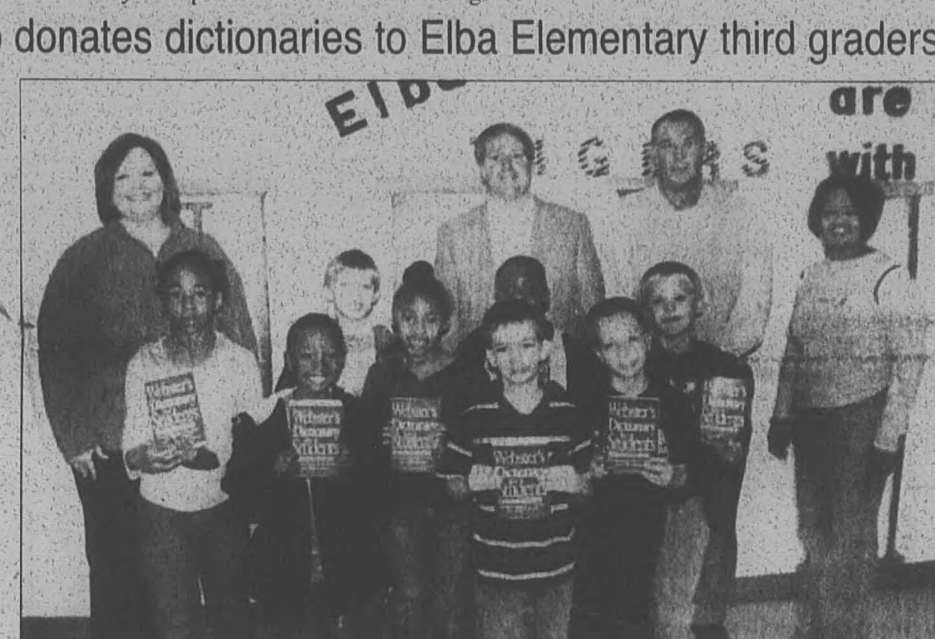
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THE CHRISTMAS SEASON OFFICIALLY GOT UNDERWAY IN ELBA last week when the Elba Chamber of Commerce sponsored the annual Elba Christmas Parade on Thursday, Dec. 4. From decorated floats to marching and equestrian units, there was plenty of holiday delight as the parade made its way through downtown Elba. As is custom for the Elba Christmas Parade, jolly St. Nick was escorted through town by the Elba Fire Department. Santa took his seat atop one of the department's fire trucks and waived to all the boys and girls as the firefighters threw candy to everyone. Additional photos from this year's parade can be found on Page 11.



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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

The \$10 million bonus reportedly being considered for Merrill Lynch's chief executive, John Thain, is "nothing less than shocking." For Merrill Lynch investors who have lost much of their life savings it is probably grounds for hanging! Thain was hired last December and the firm reported losses for every quarter this year and has lost more than \$11 billion in 2008. For this guy who honestly thinks he deserves any bonus, especially \$10 million, is a prime example of what is wrong on Wall Street. If such abuse of investors is not gotten under control the U. S. economy will either not recover or be destined for collapse after collapse. If not for Bank of America's takeover of Merrill, the old, "once trusted" investment firm would probably be headed for the trash heap. Bonus - Ha!

The proposal by EPA to tax farmers and ranchers for the gas their livestock produced is now history according to news releases from Washington. In fact they contend it was never an issue. Of course that is after being flooded with opposition from thousands of those who would be impacted and bunches of lawmakers, including both Alabama Senators. Then by Sunday the jokesters were in full gear! Their questions included "how do you measure each cow's output?", to threats of lawsuits because "my cows are fed a diet which includes 'Beans', etc." were floating around. Our opinion was, and is, that it was originated as a backdoor effort to get more money in Washington for the big spenders.

You don't need a calendar to know it is the Christmas season, just look at the crowds swimming the shopping malls. There may be a recession ongoing all across America, but it hasn't stopped Santa's elfs from going about their work with gusto. Often we wonder if these economic down times would be nationwide and/or as severe if there wasn't so much in the news about bad times and how it was going to get worse next month.

It seems to be a natural human reaction for us to have pity for ourselves when we fail in our efforts to do something others are doing and doing very well. It just is not our fault is how the inner justification starts. Yet looking around there are others all around us with real obstacles to overcome who actually succeed. Case in point is the story of the 26 year old Arizona woman who just got her pilot's license. . . This lady has no arms! However she does her preflight work, including checking the oil, etc., gets in the plane (with seatbelt fastened) fires up the engine, flies the plane and lands safely . . . using her bare feet on the controls. We sent the old Army buddy (the one who is a retired airline pilot) an e-mail with a wisecrack about his job not being anything special. . . apparently anyone can do it! That set him on fire with the expected retorts but he did follow up about the new pilot and is now one of this young woman's original admirers. Of course he also conceded to our original opinion that it might be in her genes . . . her last name is Cox. We never heard of her, nor her family, but have not admitted that to the old retired flyboy.

A recent \$10 million lawsuit verdict Aug. 26, 2008 in Macon County to a patron of the Macon County Greyhound Park has set some folks on fire. Today we received an e-mail nominating Macon County to a place as a "Judicial Hellhole" in an upcoming report on such things by the American Tort Reform Association. We suspect that judgement will not hold up on appeal. It was decided by two judges each of whom didn't let it go to a jury.

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Judson Vaughan named Troy University's Ilium Idol

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Back in late October, we published a news release in The Elba Clipper recognizing Troy University student Judson Vaughan as a finalist in the Ilium Idol vocal competition held at

the university.

Judson is the son of Eddie and Melinda Vaughan of Elba, and to those who know him, it came as no surprise that he would be selected as a finalist for such an event. Many, many times Judson

has entertained local folks with his singing abilities at community events and has always been a very talented performer.

Ilium Records, a part of the music industry program at Troy University, hosted the Ilium Idol com-

petition. Much to the elation of Judson's parents, grandparents, family and friends, he was named the 2008 Ilium Idol.

In being named the Ilium Idol, Judson was featured Saturday evening, Nov. 22, during halftime of the Troy Trojans football game as he joined the Sound of the South in delivering a rousing performance of Lee Greenwood's patriotic hit, "God Bless the USA." That was probably one of the coldest nights I've ever sat outside to watch a ball game before in my life, but I am definitely glad I got the opportunity to see our local talent wow a crowd of thousands.

Judson brought the crowd to their feet, and that's saying a lot on a night when everyone was doing everything they could to keep warm!

It's also my understanding that as the Ilium Idol, Judson will have a recording produced by Ilium Records.

Congratulations Judson and keep on singing!

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, December 1, 2008, investigated the following incidents: eight for domestic violence, two for harassment, one for assault, two for unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle, two for theft of property, three for criminal mischief, one for duty upon striking an unattended vehicle, one for damage to property, one for possession of marijuana, one for burglary, one for domestic dispute, one for duty to remain at the scene, one for public intoxication, one for a welfare check and one private property accident.

Arrest made during the week included: two for domestic violence, two for failure to appear, one for assault, one for public intoxication and one for negotiating a worthless non-negotiable instrument.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for a suspended driver's license, one for improper equipment, two for failure to display insurance, driving without first obtaining a driver's license, one for an expired tag, one for driver's license not in possession, one for no insurance and one for speeding.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to 881 N. Claxton Ave. (6:56 a.m.); Coffee County EMS

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6 Months - \$11, including only & state tax
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6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

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Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at <www.elba-clipper.com>

GEORGE LAMAR COLLIER

Mr. George Lamar Collier, age 82, of Montgomery, Ala., died Sunday, Dec. 7, 2008, at Jackson Hospital in Montgomery, Ala.

George Collier was born in Elba on July 5, 1926. He was employed at Dorsey Trailers in 1949 and served as president from 1959 until his retirement in 1987. He was president of the Truck - Trailers Manufacturers Association, vice-president of Constar International, a board member of Alabama Trucking Association and the Elba Exchange Bank.

Gravestone services were held Dec. 9, 2008 at Evergreen Cemetery of Elba, Ala. with Rev. Mart Gray officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba was in charge of arrangements. Pallbearers were George Clive Collier, Samuel Claude Collier, John Brock Collier, Bruce Wendell Mims, George Drummond Apin, Schuyler Logan Collier, Seth Harris Collier, William Brock Collier and Sam Hixon Collier.

The Collier family requested that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to The Caring Center, First Baptist Church of

Montgomery, 305 South Perry Street, Montgomery, AL 36104.

Mr. Collier was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years Mary Florence (Poney) Collier.

Survivors include his daughter: Mary (husband Bruce) Mims, Cape Girardeau, Mo.; three sons: George Clive (wife Lori) Collier, Minden, La.; Samuel Claude (wife Jackie) Collier, Kennesaw, Ga.; John Brock (wife Beth) Collier, Troy, Ala.; four granddaughters: Holly (husband George) Apin, Millstadt, Ill.; Caroline (husband Justine) Roy, Monroe, La.; Katherine Collier and Elizabeth Collier, both of Kennesaw, Ga.; four grandsons: Schuyler Collier and Seth Collier, both of Minden, La.; Brock Collier and Sam Collier, both of Troy, Ala.; great-grandson, Jerry Collier Apin, both of Millstadt, Ill.; and a brother: Sam Collier, Birmingham, Ala.

two daughters: Donna Rushing (husband Reggie) Boothe, Northport, Ala.; Michelle Rushing (husband Marty) Overton, Coker, Ala.; two granddaughters: Angel Victoria Flowers Rushing, Elba, Ala.; Amanda Overton, Coker, two grandsons: Jonathan Robert Boothe, Northport, Brandon Overton, Coker; one sister: Totsye Rushing, and three brothers: Wallace Rushing, Jerry Rushing and Sylvester Rushing, all of Elba.

JENA V. WILLIS
Mrs. Jena V. Willis, age 85, of Walnut Street, Enterprise, Ala., died Sunday, Dec. 7, 2008, at the family residence following an extended illness. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Love's Way Church with Rev. Jack Reynolds officiating and Troy Tyler providing the eulogy. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba, Ala.

Survivors include a daughter: Theresa Walters, Dothan; sons: John Willis, Enterprise, Jay Hullender, Columbus, Ga.; several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

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CARD OF THANKS

PARKS FAMILY

The family of **Walter A.C. Parks** would like to express their appreciation to everyone for all the cards, flowers, visits, food, phone calls and their prayers that was done during the illness and death of our loved one. Special thanks to Dr. Lance Dyess and First Choice Hospice & their office for the love and care that they showed to our Family.

Thanks,
The Parks Families

12-11-1p

BULLETIN BOARD

• **ABUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRIST A.R.M.S.** addiction recovery ministry services - 9p/10p - 7 p.m. - 1st Baptist Church, Call 897-9770 or visit the website: www.abusingsub.com.
• **ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** - every Thursday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church of Elba - Call 897-1037 for more info.
• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** - Call REB 1-800-772-1213 or visit the website at www.ssa.gov.
• **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday - Noon-Fri. 1st Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 5:30 p.m. - City Hall
• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall
• **ELBA MINISTRIES ASSN.** - 2nd Thursday of the month - 11 a.m. in the conference room @ Elba General Hospital.
• **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday 6-8 p.m. - Elba United Methodist Church - center on side on W. Davis St. - Maggie Garrett Classroom.
• **CORNER COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton
• **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues - 6:30 p.m. - Senior Citizen Center
• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 2nd Tues. - 5:30 p.m. - Sept. Office
• **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Tuesday of every month - 7 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
• **MASONIC LODGE 170** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.
• **BAND BOOSTERS** - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elba High School
• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-8188
• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House
• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon - Po. Falls, Enterprise
• **ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 3rd Thursday at 3 P.M., the HRO office at the Airport
• **AAEP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room
• **NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB** - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.
• **ELBA KWANAN CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Thursday - Noon - Elba Public Library

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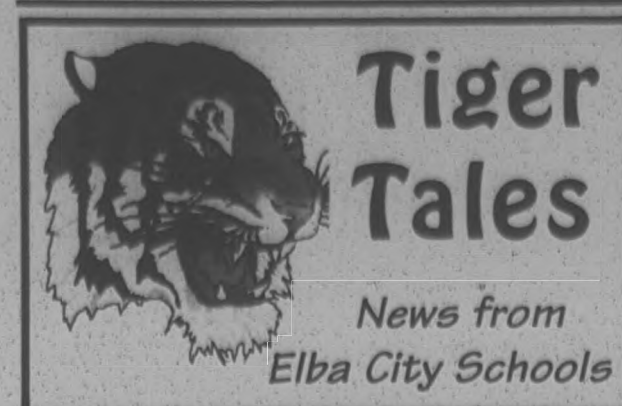
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CITY CLERK

SCHOOLS



Teacher Spotlight

by LanChessia Cross

This week's teacher spotlight shines on Ms. Cal Donnia Howard.

Ms. Howard graduated from Citronelle High School then attended Alabama A&M University where she received her Bachelor's degree. She then went to Alabama State to earn her Master's degree.



Cal Donnia Howard

Ms. Howard has been a Special Education teacher at Elba High School for many years. She wanted to touch the lives of others, so she became a teacher.

Her favorite thing about teaching is the enjoyment of observing the students' smiling faces after successfully completing a task and the environment around Elba High School. Her favorite thing about Elba is the people and their willingness to assist others.

Ms. Howard has one daughter named Brandi. Her hobbies include spending time with family and friends, traveling, shopping and reading the Bible.

Elba Elementary School Menu

December 15-19, 2008

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - Blueberry Muffin, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Chicken & Noodles, Green Peas, Corn, Roll, Sweet Potato, Milk
Tuesday - French Toast, Syrup, Link Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Chili w/Beans, Cheese Sandwich, Mixed Vegetables, Crackers, Peach Cup, Milk
Wednesday - Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Beef Nuggets, Potatoes Au Gratin, Buttered Carrots, Roll, Ice Cream, Milk
Thursday - Biscuit w/Jelly, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Hot Dog, Tater Tots, California-Style Vegetables, Christmas Cake, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday - Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich, Apple, Cookie, Milk

THE ELBA CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION is seeking applications for custodian positions. Applications will be accepted beginning **December 7, 2008 - January 9, 2009** or until the position is filled.

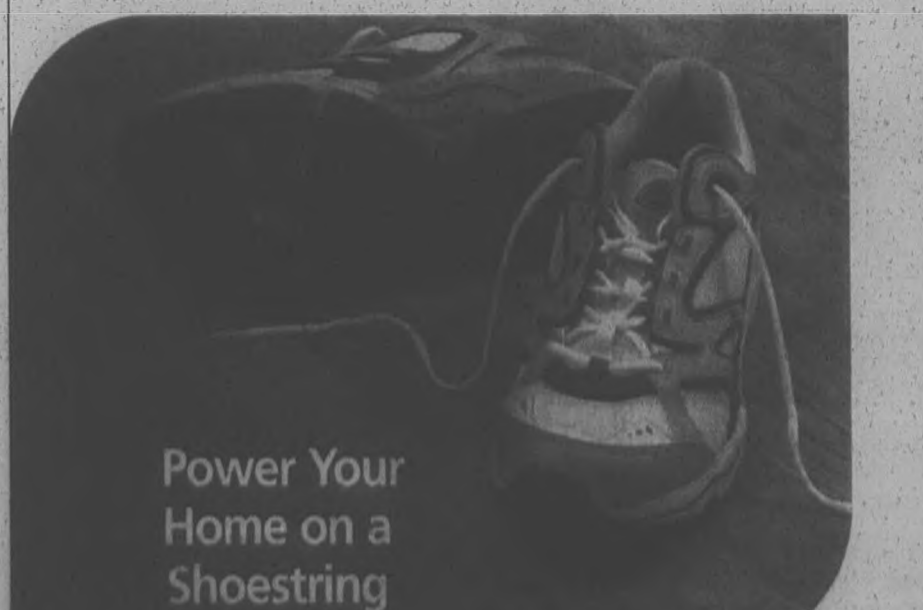
Inquires should be made to Valerie Moore at:

Elba City Schools
131 Tiger Drive
Elba, Alabama 36323
334/897-2801

Applications are available by contacting Elba City Board of Education at the above address or you may obtain an application online at www.elbaed.com.

The Elba City Board of Education does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in any of its educational or employment programs or activities.

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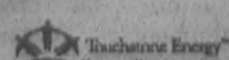


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Tea held recently for retired teachers of Elba High School

The Family and Consumer Science department at Elba High School recently hosted a tea for teachers who have retired from EHS.

Current teachers and administrators enjoyed visiting with their former colleagues and mentors. Here are a few scenes from the event...



Sylvia Padgett, retired French and English teacher, is excited to visit with Amelia Rhoades, retired English teacher, and Mrs. Rhoades's granddaughter.



Sylvia Padgett catches up with her former colleague, Ingrid Clark, who is a retired keyboarding teacher.

Student Spotlight

by Richi Singletary

Reality Singletary is in the student spotlight this week.

Reality, the 13-year-old daughter of Renethia Cureton and the late Richard Singletary, is an eighth-grade student at Elba High School. She is a member of the Junior High girls basketball team and aspires to play varsity basketball one day.

EHS teachers describe Reality as a soft-spoken people pleaser who is regularly on the Honor Roll. She works hard in her school work and on the court, and her pleasant manner is an incredible exemplar for her peers.

When not in school or on the basketball court, Reality enjoys spending time with friends and family, especially her brother, Richmon, and sister, Richanna. She also enjoys texting, talking on the phone and watching television.

Yearbooks ordered at the school are \$50. If ordered online at www.jostens.com, the books are \$45. Order now to get a yearbook at this discounted price - the price will go up soon!



Kizzy Lovelace, a current English teacher at EHS, welcomes retired librarian, Margaret Calhoun.



Larry Goodson, retired Auto/Tech teacher, catches up with Superintendent Danny Weeks and Co-Op director Mike Carney.



EHS Broadcast Journalism members show project to kindergarten students

by Richi Singletary

On December 2 and 3, Marrita Levens and Travonne Craighead, two members of the EHS Broadcast Journalism program, produced a video to show to the kindergarten students of Elba Elementary School.

This, the first project that the girls have done, was produced to excite children about reading. The girls admitted it was a difficult task working with the new equipment, but they felt it was worthwhile to see that the kindergarten students really enjoyed the video.

Mrs. Jane Mosley advised the students during their work, and she has been pleased with the program's results.

Marrisa said, "It was a wonderful experience! I enjoyed doing this project." Travonne added, "I had fun. I was happy that the children were excited because we did this project for them."

The girls see that broadcast journalism is a chance to connect with the students and teachers both at Elba High and Elba Elementary School. They feel this is a great learning experience that can get them ready for all types of things they will encounter in the world.

E.E.S. "Tigers with Character" Club

Elba Elementary School students continue to show good character. In order to be admitted to the "Tigers with Character" club, students must show Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship in word or deed. These students have been admitted to the "Tigers with Character" club:



Aaliyah Gambo, Britni Simmons, Michael Smith, Dalton Parrish, Martavious Gray, Samoyah Oliver, Nathan Simpson, and Mason Davis



Avery Webster, Victoria Hettinger, Mone Martin, Omar Whitfield, Kenneth Horshy, Keke Jones, and Beyonce Gray

SCHOOLS

FROM THE COCKPIT

New Brockton High School News

Sponsor: Lori Cotney

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: MELANIE RIGNEY

Subject and Grades Taught: Spanish, 7-10
How many years have you taught at NBHS? 1
Do you sponsor any clubs? Spanish Club
Name of spouse? Jeff
Where are you from originally? Dayton, OH
From what high school and college did you graduate? Xenia Christian High School (2003), Cedarville University (2006)



Melanie Rigney

What are your hobbies? Organizing, Movies, Painting, Drawing, Crossword puzzles

What do you like about the subject you teach? Why do you think it's important? Well, I think you're never done learning. Also, I love etymology, and studying another language allows me to think about it often. Spanish is also fun to use. It is important because it forces you out of your comfort zone. You can learn your own language better by trying to learn another, and it expands your mind/mindset.

What do you do to reach students? Listen. Other than your subject, what's the most important thing you teach students? Common Sense, Organization, Proper English Grammar!

What do you like about New Brockton High School? It's a friendly environment.

Do you have a pet peeve? My #1 pet peeve is when someone asks a question that I just answered.

Describe a memorable event or funny moment you've had at NBHS. The Homecoming Parade, we don't do that up north!

Are you finding this year an easy one? Why or why not? It has definitely been challenging because it is my first year teaching, but it has been fun too.

Describe yourself in three words. 1. Particular 2. Creative 3. Loyal

If you were stranded on an island, what one thing would you bring? My husband. I hate to be alone.

What's your favorite movie? Stranger than Fiction.

What's your favorite book? Dark Tower Series by Stephen King.

To what kind of music do you like to listen? A little of everything. I judge each song individually. My favorite genre is probably pop.

What is your favorite quote? "If I die with this Death Note, I will be as rich as Rockefeller."

What would you like to do after graduation? I would like to go back to Spain, then to Italy, London, and Paris.

Have you ever had a different career? Pharmaceutical Technician.

If you could travel to a different time era, to what era would you travel and why? 1950's. It was a time of major transition in the U.S. it would be fascinating.

If you could have a boxing match with any historical figure whom

Senior Danny Parr stated in reference to Coach Lamb, "He does a great job teaching math."

Some students pick the teachers they like by how well they understand that subject better than others. Other students, however, just like the teacher as a person as well.

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Two foreign exchange students attending NBHS this school year

by Anna Beth Sawyer

This year NBHS is proud to have two foreign exchange students enrolled. Oksana Katsanivska and Vanessa Viloria are both seniors this year and living with Lance and Jessie Wood.



Oksana Katsanivska



Vanessa Viloria

Where are you from? Oksana: The Ukraine. Vanessa: Caracas, Venezuela.

What's the biggest difference between the teenagers where you live and American teenagers? Oksana: In the Ukraine, we have more freedom and there are fewer limitations on what we can and cannot do.

What is your favorite song of all time? More than Words.

Fame, money, power. Which one is least important to you? Fame.

If you could open a business of your own what kind would it be? Wedding Planning.

What do you miss from your home the most? Oksana: My friends.

What is the biggest difference in the way of living

like the Enterprise of today. Everyone would ride their mules into town and trade all day. The town would be filled with mules.

After the city caught fire, the place was retained. New Brockton and became famous for our very own peanut butter. Soon after, schools were formed. First segregated, then segregated. Now, New Brockton is a care free town with a big heart.

I can't argue that Brockton, Massachusetts would be a beautiful place to visit, even Brockton, Montana would be nice, but there is only one place on this Earth that I call my home. I love the place where I reside, home sweet home in New Brockton, Alabama.

Most of us call New Brockton our home town. It's small, quiet, and cozy. Everybody knows everybody, and life is somewhat simple. But did you know there is more than 1 Brockton there are actually three.

One is in Montana, and another is in Massachusetts. Of course both are cold and exciting, but nothing can compare with our great, little, southern town.

Brockton, Massachusetts is much grander than either Brockton. Brockton became a city on April 9, 1881. Their buildings are old and elaborate. The population is 94,304 people.

The city is located in Plymouth County as has been around since before 1649. Brockton is referred to as the "City of Champions".

During the Civil War, Brockton was the leading producer of shoes. Brockton has many firsts; among them is the fact that it was the first city to have underground electrical system in the world where Thomas Edison, himself, hit the on switch for the first time (1883), and that Brockton was the first place in the world to have an electrically operated fire station the U.S.

Brockton, Massachusetts is home to many well-known American people such as actors, singers, boxers, baseball players, and even the guy who invented the baseball glove.

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Editorial: A look at the "three Brocktons"

by Brandi Hendrix

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In the wake of recent Mall shootings, people undoubtedly have an increased sense of awareness of keeping themselves safe during the hustle and bustle of the Christmas Shopping season. The Christmas Shopping Season is one

SPORTS

VIEWS FROM....

THE PRESSBOX

BY RICKY MULARZ, SPORTS EDITOR

I took a walk around the yard one night last week and came back in convinced we have more Christmas decorations now than we did back years ago before the girls went off to college. I don't know if it because we have more time to put up the decorations, get bored and have nothing else to do or just get a little more excited because hopefully the girls will come home over the holidays and spend a little time with the family. Oh well, maybe all the decorations will lead the girls back to the house.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Tigers evened their record at 2-2 last week with a big road win over Kinston and a look at the schedule reveals the Tigers will be very busy in the weeks to come as they get into the meat of their regular season schedule and also compete in two of the top holiday tournaments in this part of the state. The Tigers will open play in the Andalusia Christmas Tournament tonight (Thursday) with a clash against cross-county rival Enterprise, while the weekend after Christmas they will travel to Ozark to compete in the Holiday Prep Classic and will oppose Luverne in opening round action. Second-ranked Andalusia and 6A Enterprise will be the picks to take home the top prize in the Andalusia tournament, while the Ozark event will include such powers as Andalusia, Eufaula, Randolph-Clay, Enterprise, Abbeville, Barbour County, Opelika and Bullock County. While it is easy to see the Tigers will have their hands full in both events, the experience gained should pay dividends later on when they get into area play.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers grabbed their first win of the season Friday night in Kinston and used their quickness and aggressive style of play to wear down the Lady Bulldogs and leave with the win. The Lady Tigers are relentless on defense and never slow down on the offensive end of the court, and if they can learn and gain experience every time they take the court they could very well be a team to keep an eye on in the weeks to come.

*** A look around the area after a couple of weeks of high school action revealed what appeared to be a very competitive and exciting season ahead. In boys play Brantley and New Brockton look solid and should win more than their share of games, while Kinston has the players to win on any given night and Zion Chapel should steal some wins along the way. In girls play, Brantley has one of the most exciting players around in Eisha Person and will always be fun to watch, while Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel appear to be improving nightly and could grab some wins as the season progresses.

*** The big news around the state last week was the resignation/firing of Auburn's Coach Tommy Taberville. Taberville had been at Auburn for 10 years and led the Tigers to many wins, including six straight over Alabama. However, many Auburn fans never really accepted the coach and I agree that after a decade at the Plains his program had grown stale. The former coach will get a buyout of \$5.1 million, which will be paid within 30 days and the remainder within a year. So, with a buyout like that I guess it doesn't make any difference whether he resigned, as the Athletic Director stated, or he was fired, as his Mom declared. The only sure thing in coaching at any level is that while coaches come and coaches go, the games still go on.

*** Alabama fans were disappointed last weekend with the Crimson Tide's loss to Florida, but after a few days they should have the chance to look back, reflect and realize just what a fantastic season the Tide had. I will agree that a loss in the Sugar Bowl won't leave a very sweet taste in anyone's mouth, but to have a 12-1 record after all the losses on and off the field in recent years is almost unthinkable. I don't predict college sports, but did tell many people last week that Alabama would have to score at least 30 points to have a chance to win due to Florida's offense. That proved true, simply because Florida had Tim Tebow at quarterback and Alabama had a restricted offense that was limited in what it could do. How effective was Tebow? He ran the ball on four third down plays and got a first down on all four runs, while passing on third down he completed 4 of 8 passes for 3 touchdowns. Now he had started at least 30 points to have a chance to win due to Florida's offense. That proved true, simply because Florida had Tim Tebow at quarterback and Alabama had a restricted offense that was limited in what it could do. How effective was Tebow? He ran the ball on four third down plays and got a first down on all four runs, while passing on third down he completed 4 of 8 passes for 3 touchdowns. Now he had started

*** Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator saved the best for last as he picked all six state champs at last week's Super Six. The 6-0 final week picks gave the local guesspert a final record of 344-85, which ain't too shabby.

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Elba gets swept out of gym by Pike County

The Elba Tigers traveled to Brundidge last Tuesday night to battle the undefeated Pike County Bulldogs and came home with a 1-2 record after suffering a 56-32 loss.

The Tigers kept the game close in the first half and appeared ready to pull off the upset, but the Bulldogs took command after intermission and pulled away to improve their record to 3-0 on the young season.

Tevin Andrews scored 16 points and pulled down 11 rebounds to lead Pike County, while Quan Bailey added 10 points, 7 rebounds and 8 assists and Martellis Foster added 14 points and 8 rebounds.

The Elba Lady Tigers saw their record slip to -3 with a wild 45-43 overtime loss to the Pike County Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Tigers' Jacquetta Whitfield hit two free throws with no time left on the clock to send the game into overtime, but the Lady Bulldogs outscored Elba 7-5 in the extra period to pull out the win. Tierra Hall scored 18 points and pulled down 4 rebounds to lead Pike County, while Ashley Flowers added 12 points and grabbed 14 rebounds.

The Elba Tiger JV remained winless with a 34-26 loss to Pike County. Corey Carlton led the Bulldogs with 9 points.

Elba Tigers to compete in 26th annual Holiday Prep Classic

The pairings for the 26th annual Dothan Progress/Dothan Eagle/Southern Star Holiday Prep Classic were released last week and included in the sixteen-team field were the Elba Tigers.

The Tigers, which evened their record at 3-3 last week, will open play on Saturday, Dec. 27, at 9:30 p.m. when they take the court to oppose the Luverne Tigers in the final game on the schedule on day two of the five-day event held at the Ozark Civic Center.

Following is the complete tournament schedule:

FRIDAY, DEC. 26
5:00 (Game 1) Carroll vs. Robert E. Lee
6:30 (Game 2) Barbour County vs. Opelika
8:00 (Game 3) Enterprise vs. Abbeville
9:30 (Game 4) Bullock County vs. Pike County

Area teams included in state high school basketball poll

The Alabama Sports Writers Association has released its weekly high school basketball rankings for the week of December 8 and a number of area teams remained in the early season poll.

In the Boy's poll Eufaula was ranked sixth in Class 5A, Andalusia was ranked second in Class 4A, Abbeville was ranked sixth in Class 3A and in Class 2A Barbour County was ranked second and Houston County was ranked seventh.

In the Girl's poll Ashford was ranked fourth in Class 4A, Geneva was ranked tenth in Class 3A, Samson was ranked fifth in Class 2A and in Class 1A Pleasant Home was ranked fourth and Providence Christian was ranked seventh.

Following is the complete state rankings:

BOYS

CLASS 6A
1-Williamson, 2-Shades Valley, 3-Sidney Lanier, 4-Daphne, 5-Austin, 6-Baldwin County, 7-Homewood, 8-Davidson, 9-Gadsden City, 10-Vestavia Hills

CLASS 5A
1-LeFlore, 2-Butler, 3-Woodlawn, 4-Wilcox Central, 5-Parker, 6-Eufaula, 7-Russellville, 8-Annisson, 9-Talladega, 10-Fairfield

CLASS 4A
1-Deshler, 2-Andalusia, 3-Dallas County, 4-Saks, 5-Childersburg, 6-Bullock County, 7-Brewbaker Tech, 8-Central Coosa, 9-Cherokee County, 10-Caleva

CLASS 3A
1-Madison Academy, 2-Leeds, 3-Crossville, 4-Vinemont, 5-West Morgan, 6-Abbeville, 7-Central Hayneville, 8-Lauderdale County, 9-Albama, 10-Weaver

SATURDAY, DEC. 27
5:00 (Game 5) Randolph-Clay vs. Charles Henderson
6:30 (Game 6) McIntosh vs. Robertdale
8:00 (Game 7) Eufaula vs. Andalusia
9:30 (Game 8) Elba vs. Luverne

MONDAY, DEC. 29
5:00 (Game 9) Game 5 winner vs. Game 6 winner
6:30 (Game 10) Game 2 winner vs. Game 4 winner
8:00 (Game 11) Game 7 winner vs. Game 8 winner
9:30 (Game 12) Game 1 winner vs. Game 3 winner

TUESDAY, DEC. 30
5:00 (Game 13) Game 9 winner vs. Game 11 winner
6:30 (Game 14) Game 10 winner vs. Game 12 winner

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31
5:00 (Game 15) Consolation game
6:30 (Game 16) Championship game

CLASS 2A
1-R.C. Hatch, 2-Barbour County, 3-Pickens County, 4-Sulligent, 5-Fyffe, 6-St. Jude, 7-Houston County, 8-Ilder, 9-Tanner, 10-Mars Hill Bible

CLASS 1A
1-Talladega County Central, 2-Phillips Bear Creek, 3-Holy Family, 4-Tuscaloosa Academy, 5-Hazlewood, 6-Watseco, 7-Cedar Bluff, 8-Asbury, 9-Meek, 10-J.F. Shields

CLASS 6A
1-Bob Jones, 2-Sparkman, 3-Clay Chalkville, 4-Blount, 5-Murphy, 6-Mountain Brook, 7-Hoover, 8-Gadsden City, 9-Shades Valley, 10-Robertsdale

CLASS 5A
1-Talladega, 2-LeFlore, 3-Selma, 4-Faith Academy, 5-Athens, 6-Vigor, 7-Brewer, 8-Briarwood, 9-Erwin, 10-St. Paul's

CLASS 4A
1-Ramsey, 2-Midfield, 3-Lawrence County, 4-Ashford, 5-DAR, 6-Deshler, 7-Plainview, 8-Annisson, 9-Alabama Christian, 10-Childersburg

CLASS 3A
1-Madison Academy, 2-Glencoe, 3-Danville, 4-Lauderdale County, 5-Spartan County, 6-Elkmont, 7-West Morgan, 8-Albama, 9-Pisgah, 10-Geneva

CLASS 2A
1-Gold Springs, 2-Rechtown, 3-Ilder, 4-Clemons, 5-Samson, 6-Section, 7-Red Bay, 8-Mobile Christian, 9-Woodland, 10-Obatchee

CLASS 1A
1-McIntosh, 2-Spring Garden, 3-Speak, 4-Pleasant Home, 6-Hubbertville, 7-Providence Christian, 8-Jefferson Christian, 9-Gaston, 10-Jacksonville Christian



Elba Tiger Jann Carnley reaches for a loose ball in last week's win over Kinston. The win was the first of the season for the Lady Tigers. (Mike Capps photo)



Elba Tiger Quenton Caldwell (32) takes a jumper in last week's road win over the Kinston Bulldogs. The Tigers will compete this week at the Andalusia Christmas Tournament. (Mike Capps photo)

PREP FOOTBALL SUPER SIX RESULTS

CLASS 1A
Sweet Water 42 Speake 0
CLASS 2A
Leroy 41 Sulligent 8
CLASS 3A
Leeds 38 Cordova 21
CLASS 4A
UMS-Wright 41 Cherokee County 7
CLASS 5A
Vigor 30 Russellville 30
CLASS 6A
Prattville 16 Hoover 13

Billy Graham tells of his visit to the front lines during the Korean War at Christmas. "On Christmas Eve a young Marine lay dying on Heartbreak Ridge. A chaplain climbed up the slope, stooped over the Marine and whispered, 'May I help you son?' No its all right, he answered. Glancing down, the chaplain noticed a New Testament clutched in the Marine's hand, and the reason for the young man's tranquility was found on the page where his finger was inserted: 'My peace I give to you' (John 14:27)."

Today in the midst of trouble, terrorism, and war, that peace can be yours - if you put your faith in Jesus Christ. Please do it today.

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDBALL ROUNDUP

BOYS:

New Brockton rally sinks Opp 46-36

The New Brockton Gamecocks pulled away in the fourth quarter to defeat the Opp Bobcats 46-36, last Monday night in New Brockton. The Gamecocks held a slim 33-31 lead after three quarters, but outscored the Bobcats 13-5 in the final stanza to pull away and claim the win. Shambay Johnson scored 22 points and Devin Muhammad added 10 to lead New Brockton, while Gavin Free led Opp with 11 points.

Zion Chapel falls to Providence 61-44

The Zion Chapel Rebels saw a first half lead vanish as the Providence Christian Eagles rallied to claim a 61-44 win, last Tuesday night in Zion Chapel. Ethan Mount scored 17 points to lead the Rebels, while Keith Granger scored 22 points and Johnny Dowd added 17 to lead the Eagles.

Brantley outshot by Red Level 102-87

The Brantley Bulldogs opened their season last Tuesday night in Red Level and were outscored by the Tigers 102-87. Wesley Person scored 31 points to lead Brantley, while Tory Upshaw added 20 and Devontae Porter scored 19. D.J. Sankey scored 27 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and handed out 11 assists to lead Red Level.

Bulldogs rip Highland Home 84-70

The Brantley Bulldogs got their first win of the young season Thursday night by outscoring the Highland Home Flying Squadron 84-70, in Highland Home. Tory Upshaw scored 22 points and pulled down 15 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs, while Wesley Person added 17 points.

New Brockton upset by Straughn 58-55

The New Brockton Gamecocks suffered their first loss of the young season Thursday night as they lost to the Straughn Tigers 58-55, in New Brockton. Shambay Johnson scored 25 points and Justin Flowers added 19 to lead the Gamecocks, while James Byrd scored 16 points to lead the Tigers and Bryan Walker and Charles Christopher both added 11.

Brantley surprises Georgiana 84-70

The Brantley Bulldogs grabbed a big early season win Friday night at home by claiming an 84-70 upset over the previously undefeated Georgiana Panthers. Wesley Person scored 20 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Devontae Porter added 18, Tory Upshaw 17 and Chester Person 16.

GIRLS:

New Brockton outscored by Opp 59-30

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks fell behind early and never recovered in a 59-30 loss to the Opp Lady Bobcats, last Monday night in New Brockton. The Lady Gamecocks fell behind 21-6 in the opening stanza and never threatened to rally against the 4A Lady Bobcats. Whitney Brantley scored 10 points and Alex Lee added 9 to lead New Brockton, while Harrison scored 22 points and Drew added 15 to lead Opp.

Zion Chapel falls to Providence 64-18

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels were simply no match for the Providence Christian Lady Eagles as they suffered a lopsided 64-18 loss, last Tuesday night in Zion Chapel. Madison Longchamp scored 19 points and had 5 steals to lead Providence, while Andrea Chariton added 17 points, 13 rebounds and 8 steals.

Brantley runs past Red Level 65-58

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs needed all four quarters to get past the Red Level Lady Tigers 65-58, last Tuesday night in Red Level. Eisha Person scored 40 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Koneisha Calloway led the Lady Tigers with 24 points.

Brantley eases past H. Home 39-29

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs continued their early season success last Thursday night with a 39-29 win over Highland Home, in Highland Home. Eisha Person scored 20 points and pulled down 19 rebounds to lead the Lady Bulldogs.

Brockton ripped by Straughn 55-18

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks fell behind early and could never catch up last Thursday night in a 55-18 loss to the Straughn Lady Tigers, in New Brockton. Kayla Teel scored 12 points and Tiffany Taylor added 12 to lead the Lady Tigers.

Brantley rolls past Georgiana 60-44

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs remained on a roll Friday night with a big 60-44 home win over the Georgiana Lady Panthers. Eisha Person scored 36 points and grabbed 15 rebounds to lead the Lady Bulldogs.

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Kinston's Eric Wise (45) throws up a roadblock to Elba's Jason Mitchell (5) in action last week in the Tigers' win over the Bulldogs. (Mike Capps photo)



LADY GAMECOCK REBOUND... A New Brockton Lady Gamecock pulls down a rebound in action against Straughn. (Mike Capps photo)

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: MARRIAGE OF KIMBERLY LOU ROBERTS, PLAINTIFF

VS. DAVIS R. ROBERTS, DEFENDANT

CASE NO. DR-2008-000058

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Davis R. Roberts, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer Kimberly Lou Roberts' Complaint For Divorce and other relief by 1-18-09, or thereafter a judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case No. DR 2008-000058, Circuit Court of Coffee County.

DONE this 19 day of November, 2008. /s/ James M. Counts, Coffee County Circuit Clerk

CANNON, VAUGHAN, & PRESCOTT ATTORNEYS 415 West Davis Street P.O. Box 647 Elba, Alabama 36523 Attorneys for Kimberly Lou Roberts

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Coffee County Commission #2 County Complex, 1065 E. McKinnon Complex New Brockton, AL 36351 TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

The Coffee County Commission proposes to request to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs to release Federal Funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93383) to be used for the following proposed project:

FY 2008 State of Alabama Community Development Block Grant project (CY-CM-PF-08-016) for senior center improvements. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$75,400.00. The CDBG portion of the project will be \$68,400.00 and the local portion is \$7,000.00 which will be provided by the Coffee County Commission. It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the Coffee County Commission has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190). The reasons for such decisions not to prepare such statement are as follows: The County has an Environmental Assessment, so there is no need for an impact study.

An Environmental Review Record respecting the within project has been made by the Coffee County Commission which documents the Environmental Review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such Statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, at the Coffee County Commission between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. M-F.

No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted, prior to the request for release of federal funds. All interested agencies, groups, and persons disagreeing with the decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Coffee County Commission to the above address. Such written comments should be received at the Coffee County Commission on or before December 26, 2008. All such comments so received will be considered and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, P. O. Box 5690, Montgomery, AL 36103-5690, will not request the release of federal funds or take any administrative action on the within project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Jim Thompson, Chairman Coffee County Commission #2 County Complex, 1065 E. McKinnon Complex New Brockton, AL 36351 12-11-1c

HAZEL DUKES, PLAINTIFF, VS. J & J ENTERPRISES, LLC and PRESTIGE HOME PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC., DEFENDANTS

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

To: DEFENDANT J & J Enterprises, LLC:

You are hereby notified that a Complaint has been filed in the Circuit Court of Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, against you and you are required to appear and plead to or answer the same within (30) days of the last publication, which will be the 14th day of Feb. 2009, or thereafter a default may be rendered against you. This the 9th day of Dec. 2008.

James M. Counts, Circuit Clerk Coffee County, Alabama 12-11, 18, 26, 2008 8:1-1-09

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS Coffee County Commission

Annual Christmas Parade held in Elba



Clark Furniture

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

LA-Z-BOY RECLINERS STARTING AT \$279.00

TV STANDS STARTING AT \$69.00

PREMIUM QUEEN BEDDING SLEEP IN COMFORT \$349.00

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'CHRISTMAS CLEARANCE SALE'

40 - 60% Off
ALL CHRISTMAS WREATHS
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ARRANGEMENTS

AROMATIQUE CINNAMON CIDER
PUMPKIN SPICE

45 % Off
SALE STARTS WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 17th

CASH & CARRY
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Cemetery Pots
& Baskets

Elba Florist
GIFTS & INTERIORS
316 Simmons St. • Elba, AL 36523
897-2700

"Christmas in Elba" event deemed a huge success

The Christmas holiday season officially began last week in Elba when two organizations combined their events to celebrate "Christmas in Elba."

The coffeehouse is described as a place that gives the community somewhere to meet, greet and do things on the square. Last week's crafts bazaar also was considered a fundraiser for the coffeehouse.

The majority of the vendors for the crafts bazaar were local people, and all seemed delighted by the response they received.



The crafts bazaar held at Just Folk Coffeehouse, located on the square in downtown Elba, during the "Christmas in Elba" event offered local artists an opportunity to highlight and sell their works.



Many folks utilized their time at the "Christmas in Elba" crafts bazaar to catch up with friends while having a cup of coffee.



Following the Elba Christmas Parade, the Chamber of Commerce sponsored "Pictures with Santa" at Just Folk Coffeehouse, located on the square.

Clark Theatre • Enterprise
CLARK THEATRE'S WEB SITE
www.hollywoodtheatre.com
OR MOVIE INFO 347-2531
ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBER
DISCOUNT FROM ACTIVE MILITARY ID
+ 1 GUEST

DECEMBER 12-18
Enterprise Shopping Center
(PG-13)
M-F 7:00 & 9:30
S&S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:30
R. FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13)
M-F 7:10 & 9:10
S&S 2:10, 7:10 & 9:10
Westgate Center
(PG)
M-F 7 & 9 S&S 2, 7 & 9
IV - BOLE
M-F 7 & 9 S&S 2, 7 & 9
College Cinema
(PG-13)
I - THE DAY THE EARTH
STOOD STILL
M-F 7 & 9:15 S&S 2, 7 & 9:15
II - AUSTRALIA (PG-13)
M-F 7:30 ONLY S&S 2 & 7:30
III - PUNISHER WARS ZONE (R)
M-F 7:10 & 9:15
S&S 2, 7:10 & 9:15
Bryant Motors, 316 Simmons St.
2nd Floor
Elba, AL 36523
897-2700

REMINDER
The annual Coffee County Salvation Army holiday fund drive will continue each Friday and Saturday through Saturday, Dec. 20. To volunteer to be a bell ringer in Elba, call Barbara Turner at 897-5202 or Kristy Hickman at 897-2090.

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European facial
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MAKE PERFECT
HOLIDAY GIFT
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Natural Hormone Replacement Therapy, Respiratory Needs, Natural Vitamins & Herbs, Prescription Compounding Pain Management, Home Medical Equipment

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Payne Bryan shows off the massive stocking to be given away at the pharmacy before Christmas.

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 112, Number 28 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 18, 2008 1 Section, 14 Pages

Cuts expected to be costly Proration challenges local school systems

by Fern Cox, Publisher

The long expected proration of state school funds became a reality in Alabama Monday afternoon, Dec. 15, when Governor Bob Riley announced a 12.5% immediate across the board cut in these funds.

Gov. Riley also cut other state agencies by 10% in the same press conference. By declaring proration the governor was then authorized to withdraw funds from the education Rainy Day Fund, approved by Alabama voters in November. By withdrawing \$218 million from the education Rainy Day Fund the governor was able to reduce the proration percentage to 9%.

He said Monday that the balance of the Rainy Day Fund would be used later in the fiscal year if needed.

This is the largest percentage of proration since 1961, when the final figure was 14.14%. Alabama schools have been in proration 17 times since 1950.

Proration is required because the Alabama Constitution prohibits state agencies from deficit spending (Bond issues are not considered deficit spending).

School officials, local and statewide, were hoping for a 6.5 to 7% cut in spending, and Monday afternoon were in some-

Proration in the Education Trust Fund has been declared 17 times since 1950.

1950	4.80%
1951	1.00%
1957	2.76%
1958	7.82%
1959	3.54%
1960	8.35%
1961	14.14%
1979	2.98%
1980	6.14%
1981	3.57%
1983	10.0%
1986	4.21%
1987	5.00%
1991	6.50%
1992	3.00%
2001	6.20%
2003	4.41%

*These years ended at 0% proration.

thing approaching a state of shock. Local school officials said the cut will challenge them to cut spending in every possible area.

Proration is required because the Alabama Constitution prohibits state agencies from deficit spending (Bond issues are not considered deficit spending).

School officials, local and statewide, were hoping for a 6.5 to 7% cut in spending, and Monday afternoon were in some-

the schools have not yet received \$108,000, due from the state last month.

The Elba Board of Education recently approved applying for a \$200,000 line of credit at a local bank, which has not been used.

Mr. Weeks noted that during the last period of proration the State Department of Education got legislative approval to allow school systems to use funds earmarked for capital outlay as operating funds. The Elba School System has in excess of \$500,000 in these earmarked funds, and Weeks is hoping the system will be allowed to use some of this money for operational expenses.

Weeks said staff members were already cutting where they could, reducing travel, turning off lights when not in use, cutting off heating and cooling units when school is out, etc. He added that by January he should have a clearer picture of the fiscal situation and planned to meet with the school principals and discuss where cuts can be made.

No teachers can be cut and only probational support personnel (who are not contract employees) may be terminated in the middle of a contract term. Combining of bus routes will be looked out, stopping all administrative travel unless absolutely necessary is already a practice that is in place, said Weeks.

"But whatever we do, we will not cut services to the Elba school students," Weeks said.

Coffee County Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said Tuesday afternoon the 9% proration will cost the Coffee County School System \$1,145,382.84 or \$114,538.28 per month for the 10 remaining months in the fiscal year. She added that the county schools would be able to weather

Please See CUTS, Page 11

Two board members take oath of office at County BOE meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Probate Judge William Gammill administered the oath of office Thursday evening, Dec. 11, for two recently elected members of the Coffee County Board of Education.

The swearing-in ceremony held for District Seven board member Danny Jernigan and District One board member Joey Arnold opened the December meeting of the county board of education. Following the ceremony, a quorum of board members proceeded with the monthly meeting.

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram presented board members with a copy of the October 2008 financial statement for review. She noted that tax collections received by the school system are down quite a bit as compared to last year. She said this might be an indication the local economy is beginning to follow suit



TWO MEMBERS OF THE ELBA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT fight to extinguish the blaze from this vehicle fire on Saturday morning, Dec. 13. The truck, which was a total loss from the fire, was parked in the parking lot of the Ranch House when it caught fire. The vehicle was moved away from the restaurant, and the fire did not pose any threat to the building.

Elba Fire Department responds to fires

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Members of the Elba Volunteer Fire Department were in demand late last week as they responded to a mobile home fire early Friday morning, Dec. 12, and a vehicle fire Saturday morning, Dec. 13.

Just prior to 8 a.m. last Friday morning, the department was dispatched to respond to a mobile home fire at 824 First Avenue. According to reports, the initial 911 call indicated a person was trapped inside the burning home; however, that report turned out to be false.

Only four minutes after being dispatched to the fire, the volunteer firefighters arrived on scene and found that one room was in flames. They were able to contain the blaze before it spread throughout the home.

On Saturday morning, the department was dispatched just prior to 10 a.m. to a vehicle fire in the parking lot of The Ranch



Members of the Elba Volunteer Fire Department quickly extinguished the blaze inside this mobile home last Friday morning, Dec. 12. Initially, the firefighters were told that someone was trapped inside, however, this report was not true.

House. The report indicated that flames were visible.

The firefighters arrived on scene approximately seven minutes after being

dispatched to this fire and began to work to extinguish the blaze.

No injuries were reported from either fire.

Director for the 2008-2009 school year. Hendricks will begin work on Jan. 5, 2009. Also during last Thursday's meeting, Dr. Ingram told board members the state only sent about 75 percent of the funding again this month. She said about \$260,000 was used from reserve funds to pay the employees. She also noted it was anticipated that the remaining 25 per-

Please See BOE, Page 11



Coffee County Probate Judge William Gammill (right) administered the oath of office for two members of the Coffee County Board of Education. Members accepting the oath of office were (from left) Danny Jernigan, District Seven; and Joey Arnold, District One.

Holiday Closings

THE CITY OF ELBA OFFICES will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24, through Friday, Dec. 26, in observance of the Christmas holiday. There will be standby crews for any emergencies with electric, water, sewer or gas. To report any emergency, call the Elba Police Department at 897-2351. The garbage truck will be running the usual schedule each day.

THE ELBA CLIPPER OFFICE will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24, and Thursday, Dec. 25, in observance of the Christmas holiday. The newspaper will be published by mail each day. The Elba Police Department and the Elba Fire Department will be open for business. All other news and advertising will be due Monday, Dec. 22, at Noon.

REMINDER
County Four of "Kicks in the Christmas" can be found on Page 11 of today's paper.